The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

The Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, Trivandrum (Amendment) Bill, 2005

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, Trivandrum Act, 1980.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

DISCUSSION ON STATEMENT MADE BY MINISTER

New framework for the Us-India Defence Relationship

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): Mr. Deputy Chairman, how much time do I have?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You have 30 minutes.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: I will try and see whatever I can do best in this time, Sir. The US-India relationship is considered to be an important relationship, so also the strategic partnership. Therefore, on this new framework agreement, that has been concluded by the Hon. Defence Minister on which he gave a statement recently, let me say it at the very outset, that we welcome the developments. I will share with you where we welcome it, where our concerns are. You know very well that the present Secretary General went in 2001-02 and many such agreements were concluded in the previous NDA Government. Those were the beginnings of this defence relationship, in real sense, going back actually to 1995. Now, there is, in that sense, continuity and this continuity is to be welcomed. There is this aspect of diversification of procurement of weapon systems, which is a welcome aspect. The question of technological advancement of military weaponry is somewhat a complex